AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 and which binds to Akt-homolog-2 ("Akt2").

2. (Previously presented) An isolated polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4.

3. (Currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide encoding ~~the polypeptide described in claim 1 or claim 2~~

a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 and which binds to Akt-2 or

a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4.

4. (Currently amended) An expression vector comprising ~~the polynucleotide described in claim 3~~ a polynucleotide encoding

a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 and which binds to Akt-2 or

a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4.

5. (Currently amended) A cell transformed with ~~the expression vector described in claim 4~~ an expression vector comprising a polynucleotide encoding

a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 and which binds to Akt-2 or

a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4.

6. (Currently amended) A method for screening a substance which inhibits binding of ~~a polypeptide described in claim 1, which comprises~~ a polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 and which binds to Akt2, said method comprising

allowing [[(1)]] (a) the aforementioned polypeptide or a cell ~~expressing the aforementioned polypeptide~~ transformed with an expression vector of claim 4, to contact [[(2)]] (b) a substance to be tested,

measuring binding of said polypeptide with Akt2, and

selecting a substance which inhibits the aforementioned binding.

7. (Original) The screening method described in claim 6, wherein the binding inhibiting substance is an insulin resistance improving agent and/or a carbohydrate metabolism improving agent.

8. (Currently amended) The screening method described in claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the step of measuring binding of ~~(1) the polypeptide described in claim 1~~ (a) the polypeptide which comprises the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4 and which binds to

Akt2 to [[(2)]] (b) Akt2 is a step of measuring a change in Akt2 based on the change in the aforementioned binding.

9. (Previously presented) A method for producing a pharmaceutical composition for insulin resistance improvement and/or carbohydrate metabolism improvement, which comprises

carrying out screening using a screening method selected from the group consisting of the method described in claim 6, the method described in claim 7, and the method described in claim 8, and

preparing a pharmaceutical preparation.

10. (canceled).

11. (Previously presented) The screening method described in claim 6, wherein the polypeptide is a polypeptide consisting of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or SEQ ID NO:4.

12. (New) The screening method described in claim 6, wherein the step of contacting the substance to be tested is a step of allowing the aforementioned polypeptide to contact the substance to be tested.